(*c*) the reasons which led to the abolition of these offices were :—

(1) the perceptible fall in the number of documents registered in the offices during 1106 as compared with the previous years ;

(2) the appreciable fall in revenue from those offices ; and

(3) the need for retrenchment in expenditure.

(*d*) A few complaints were received from the people against the abolition of these Sub-Registry Offices.

(*e*) The offices were abolished in pursuance of the measures suggested to Government by the Retrenchment Committee and the Account Officer, though the officer in charge of the Department had not fully approved their abolition.

Smuggling of drugs from the Kottayam District Hospital.

310. **MR. K. C. CHANDI** (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Are the Government aware that petty chemists in the town of Kottayam are selling drugs smuggled from the Kottayam District Hospital ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : No.

Qualification of candidates for Music Examination.

311. **MR. K. KRISHNAN NAYAR** (*Pattanamlitta*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is a rule to the effect that candidates appearing for the Music Examination should have passed the Sixth Class in the Vernacular School ; and

(*b*) if so, whether any other standard has been recognised as equivalent to that ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes ; Second Form standard of recoginsed English Schools of the State.

MR. K. KRISHNAN NAYAR (*Pattanamtitta*) : With regard to the answer to part (*b*), may I know whether the Government will consider the question of revising the Rule so as to enable, also those candidates who have studied up to a certain standard in Sanskrit Schools, to appear for the examination ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That will be referred to the Director of Public Instruction.

Grant-in-aid to teachers of aided Sanskrit schools.

312. **MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the grants to teachers of aided Sanskrit schools have been reduced recently ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the reasons for doing the same ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Owing to the present financial stringency, it was possible to provide this year only a reduced sum for payment of grant-in-aid to the teachers of aided Sanskrit Schools and hence only 75 per cent. of the sanctioned amount of grant to aided Sanskrit Schools is allowed.

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